

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q91743

Akihiro GOTO, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/558,384

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Confirmation No.: 4167

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: November 29, 2005

For: ELECTRODE FOR DISCHARGE SURFACE TREATMENT, MANUFACTURING METHOD FOR ELECTRODE FOR DISCHARGE SURFACE TREATMENT, DISCHARGE SURFACE TREATMENT APPARATUS, AND DISCHARGE SURFACE TREATMENT METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/558,384

Attorney Docket No.: Q91743

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents (International Search Report for PCT/JP04/000742 dated July 6, 2004), together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office. English language abstracts, submitted herewith, constitute concise statements of relevance for Japanese Patent Application Publication Numbers 5-148615, 8-300227 and WO Publication Number 01/05545.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

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Date: September 5, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</u> <u>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	10/558,384
				Confirmation Number	4167
				Filing Date	November 29, 2005
				First Named Inventor	Akihiro GOTO
				Art Unit	Unknown
Examiner Name				Unknown	
Attorney Docket Number				Q91743	
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 6,602,561	B1	08-05-2003	Toshio Moro, et al.
		US 2003/0089197	A1	05-15-2003	Kouchi Wada, et al.
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	11-229159	A	08-24-1999	Mitsubishi Denki K.K.	Partial Translation
		JP	6-33261	A	02-08-1994	Toyo Kohan Co., Ltd.	Partial Translation
		WO	99/58744	A1	11-18-1999	MITSUBISHI DENKI KABUSHIKI KAISHA	Abstract
		WO	01/23641	A1	04-05-2001	MITSUBISHI DENKI KABUSHIKI KAISHA	Abstract
		JP	5-214402	A	08-24-1993	Nippon Steel Welding Products & Engineering Co., Ltd.	Partial Translation
		JP	2003-3204	A	01-08-2003		
		JP	5-148615	A	06-15-1993	RES DEV CORP OF JAPAN	Abstract
		JP	8-300227	A	11-19-1996	RES DEV CORP OF JAPAN SAITO NAGAO MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORP MORI NAOTAKE	Abstract
		WO	01/05545	A1	01-25-2001	MITSUBISHI DENKI KABUSHIKI KAISHA	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		A. GOTO, et al., "Formation of Hard Layer on Metallic Material by EDM", BERICHT NR. 1405, 1998. pp. 271-278	
		A. GOTO, et al., "DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRICAL DISCHARGE COATING METHOD", Proc. Int. Symposium for Electro-machining, pp. 581-588	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.